

Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. A plumbing system, comprising:
 - a primary hot water supply pipe;
 - a primary cold water supply pipe;
 - a hot water control valve fluidically connected to the primary hot water supply pipe;
 - a cold water control valve fluidically connected to the primary cold water supply pipe;
 - a faucet fluidically connected to the hot water control valve and fluidically connected to the cold water control valve;
 - a secondary hot water pipe fluidically connected to the primary hot water pipe;
 - a secondary cold water pipe fluidically connected to the primary cold water pipe;
 - a hand held shower;
 - a pressure balanced valve fluidically connected to the secondary hot water pipe and fluidically connected to the secondary cold water pipe; and
 - a flexible hose fluidically connecting the hand held shower to the pressure balanced valve.

2. The plumbing system of claim 1 wherein the pressure balanced valve further comprises an inner chamber adapted to intermix hot and cold water, wherein the pressure balanced valve is adapted to supply water to the hand held shower, and wherein the pressure balanced valve is adapted to balance the pressure of the water supplied to the hand held shower.

3. The plumbing system of claim 1 wherein the pressure balanced valve is adapted to supply water to the hand held shower and wherein the pressure balanced valve is adapted to balance the temperature of the water supplied to the hand held shower.

4. The plumbing system of claim 1 wherein the pressure balanced valve further comprises an inner chamber adapted to intermix hot and cold water, wherein the pressure balanced valve is adapted to supply water to the hand held shower, wherein the pressure balanced valve is adapted to balance the temperature of the water supplied to the hand held shower, and wherein the pressure balanced valve is adapted to balance the pressure of the water supplied to the hand held shower.

5. A hand held shower system controlled by a single valve, comprising:

- a hot water supply;
- a cold water supply;
- a pressure balanced valve in hydraulic communication with the respective hot and cold water sources;
- a hand held shower head; and
- a flexible hose hydraulically connecting the hand held shower head to the pressure balanced valve.

6. The hand held shower system of claim 5 wherein the pressure balanced valve is adapted to supply water pressure to the hand held shower head and wherein the water pressure is directly balanced by the pressure balance valve.

7. The hand held shower system of claim 5 wherein the pressure balanced valve is adapted to supply water to the hand held shower head, wherein the water has a water pressure and a water temperature, and wherein the water pressure and water temperature are controlled by the pressure balanced valve.

8. A method for controlling the water temperature and pressure output from a hand held shower head, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a pressure balanced valve having an output and a plurality of inputs;
- b) providing a hand held shower head;
- c) providing a hot water source and a cold water source;
- d) hydraulically connecting the pressure balanced valve output to the hand held shower head;
- e) hydraulic connecting the hot water source to and the cold water source to a respective pressure balanced valve input; and
- f) controlledly opening the pressure balanced valve to achieve a desired pressure and temperature of water from the hand held shower head.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the pressure balanced valve further comprises an inner chamber adapted to intermix hot and cold water.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein the pressure balanced valve is adapted to internally balance the water pressure.

11. The method of claim 8 wherein the pressure balanced valve is adapted to supply water to the hand held shower head, wherein the water has a water pressure and a water temperature, and wherein the water pressure and water temperature are controlled by the pressure balanced valve.